

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Jon Sonju, on March 16, 2007 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 455 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Jon Sonju, Chairman (R)
Rep. Kevin T. Furey, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Bill Nooney, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Elsie Arntzen (R)
Rep. Edward Hilbert (R)
Rep. Deborah Kottel (D)
Rep. Bruce Malcolm (R)
Rep. Bill Wilson (D)
Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Katie Butcher, Committee Secretary
Andrew Geiger, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing: SB 208, SB 185, SB 384
Executive Action: SB 208

HEARING ON SB 208

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:27 Sen. Mitch Tropila (D), SD 12, opened the hearing on SB 208, Traffic regulation for non-functioning traffic signal.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:31 Cory Larson, Great Falls City Attorneys
00:05:39 Bob Gilbert, Montana tow truck Association
00:06:03 Dean Roberts, Motor Vehicle Division (MVD)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:06:51 Rep. Kottel
00:07:33 Sen. Tropila
00:08:14 Mr. Larson

Closing by Sponsor:

00:08:59 Sen. Tropila

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 208

00:11:50 **Motion:** Rep. Nooney moved that **SB 208 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

00:12:04 Rep. Arntzen
00:12:20 Rep. Hilbert

00:13:08 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. MacLaren voted aye by proxy. Rep. Kottel will carry the bill on the house floor.

00:13:51 Break
00:15:03 Reconvene

HEARING ON SB 384

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:15:15 Sen. David Wanzenried (D), SD 49, opened the hearing on SB 384, Revise abandoned vehicle laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:17:05 Jim Smith, Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association

00:17:48 Bob Gilbert, Montana Tow Truck Association

00:19:59 Dean Roberts, MVD

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:20:40 Rep. Kottel

00:21:11 Rep. Wanzenried

00:21:32 Mr. Gilbert

00:22:11 Rep. Kottel

00:22:40 Mr. Gilbert

00:23:06 Rep. Nooney

00:23:23 Sen. Wanzenried

00:23:59 Rep. Hilbert

00:24:48 Sen. Wanzenried

Closing by Sponsor:

00:27:32 Sen. Wanzenried

00:28:47 Break

00:32:42 Reconvene

HEARING ON SB 185

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:33:04 Sen. Bob Hawks (D), SD 33, opened the hearing on SB 185, Provide for medium speed electric vehicles.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:38:14 Ron Gompertz

[EXHIBIT\(trh56a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(trh56a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(trh56a03\)](#)

00:42:40 Steve Titas, President, Free Drive EV
00:45:19 Matt Elsaesser, SAVE Foundation
00:45:57 Anna Peterson, Montana Environmental Center
00:46:17 Brenda Nordlund, Montana Department of Justice (MDJ)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:48:03 Rep. Kottel
00:49:06 Dean Roberts, MVD
00:50:21 Ms. Nordlund MDJ
00:52:04 Rep. Kottel
00:52:28 Ms. Nordlund MDJ
00:53:40 Rep. Wiseman
00:54:02 Ms. Nordlund MDJ
00:54:20 Rep. Arntzen
00:54:43 Ms. Nordlund MDJ
00:55:49 Rep. Arntzen
00:56:23 Mr. Gompertz
00:59:25 Rep. Malcolm
00:59:31 Ms. Nordlund
01:08:03 Rep. Wiseman
01:08:19 Mr. Titas, Free Drive EV
01:09:09 Rep. Sonju
01:09:35 Ms. Nordlund
01:12:54 Rep. Arntzen
01:13:07 Ms. Nordlund
01:13:16 Mr. Roberts, MVD

Closing by Sponsor:

01:13:40 Sen. Hawks

ADJOURNMENT

01:15:15 Adjournment

REP. JON SONJU, Chairman

KATIE BUTCHER, Secretary

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Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([trh56aad.pdf](#))